

TRAIL RIDERS



No. 95
SUMMER
1954



Facts for Prospective Trail Riders

Who are the Trail Riders ?

The Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies comprise an independent society of alpine enthusiasts of both sexes who each year hold two or more camps — of five and six days' duration — in the vicinity of Banff or Lake Louise.

Membership in the order is open to all, regardless of race, creed, color or profession.

What are their aims ?

Principal aims of the society are to encourage horseback riding over the more remote trails of the Canadian Rockies, to encourage the construction of new trails and the maintenance and improvement of those already in use, to promote good fellowship, interest in wild life, and to co-operate with other organizations holding similar aims.

How are they governed ?

Established in 1924 by the late John Murray Gibbon, of Montreal, the Trail Riders have their own constitution, executive officers, council, and various operating committees. A new slate of officers is elected annually, the office of President alternating each year between a Canadian and an American Trail Rider.

How is the camp conducted ?

Trail Riders make their headquarters at a permanent camp from which a series of outstanding trails radiate. They set out each morning, lunch on the trail, and return to camp at nightfall for supper, singsong and campfire entertainment. Riders make their homes in tepees, artistically decorated by Indians of the local Stony tribe. Sleeping bags take the place of beds.

How do I join the annual ride ?

To make application for any of the annual rides simply drop a note to the Secretary-Treasurer, Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, Room 294, Windsor Station, Montreal, Que., enclosing a deposit of \$10.00, and stating which of the rides you wish to attend. If you find it necessary to cancel your reservation on or before June 15 your deposit is refunded.

What is the cost of a ride ?

Cost of the five-day and six-day rides are \$70.00 and \$80.00 respectively. This

includes horse and saddle equipment, tepee accommodation, meals in camp and on the trail, guide services, gratuities and transportation of duffle between Banff and camp, both ways.

The organization also has on hand a limited number of sleeping bags to rent for \$5.00 for the duration of the camp. Those who have their own, of course, are asked to bring them along.

How are applications considered ?

Each of the rides is limited to 60 riders. It is only fair, therefore, that applications be accepted in order of their arrival. Members and prospective members should have their applications in before July 1. However, if vacancies still exist after that date further applications will be accepted.

What experience is required ?

You don't need to be an expert or even a mediocre rider to join the organization. Some join the rides with little or no experience in the saddle. The horses are mild mannered, sure footed mountain cayuses who are noted for their dependability on the trails.

The cavalcade moves in single file at a slow walk, an average day's ride comprising 10 to 12 miles with frequent rest periods. Seated in a big western saddle with hand resting on saddle horn, even the greenest dude can watch the landscape in complete comfort and security. And if you happen to be weary some morning you can laze around camp all day without loss of face !

How do I become a member ?

To be a full-fledged member of the organization you must have at least 50 miles of Rocky Mountain trail riding to your credit. This mileage can be acquired either with the Trail Riders themselves or independently.

Upon completion of a membership form and payment of the annual \$2.00 fee, you become a full-fledged member and are entitled to wear the button of the order, these varying with your accumulated mileage. (See page 29). As a member you are entitled to receive the Trail Rider's official magazine, issued three times a year. You also become eligible for any office in the executive or council.

Come on Along!

Wanted: new members! We think we have something extra special in those annual rides — too good to keep to ourselves. We want new members to join in the fun.

If you're already a member, you'll know what is meant by a warm western welcome. If not, you have only to join our cavalcade this summer and find out the happy way!

Perhaps you'd like to join, but feel that you lack the necessary riding experience. No go! Let it be said that many of our veteran members had little or no riding experience when they took their first trail ride.

Bred and "brought up" in the Rockies, the horses are gentle and sure-footed. They are educated to cater to the greenest dude's whims. As for the western saddle, it's as comfy as a rocking chair — with a good sturdy saddle horn to cling to.

This is an invitation — an invitation to join our ranks on the 31st consecutive annual ride since the association was founded. We have covered a lot of mileage since that time, over those magic timberline trails that lie far from the beaten track.

TRIO FROM EUREKA



A photogenic introduction to the new Bulletin — the Eureka trio, consisting of Ella Ferris, Frank Sabin and Edna Gwynn, who represented that Montana town on the five-day ride last summer. We hear Ella's planning a return trip this year. As for Past-President Sabin, we're just taking it for granted he'll be back in the saddle.

"Trail Riders"

Official Publication of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies

Address all Bulletin material to

GRAHAM NICHOLS

Secretary-Treasurer and Editor

Room 294, Windsor Station

Montreal, Que., Canada

They're Signing Up For Both the Rides

● The application forms are rolling in again!

With still two months to go, the reservations list has a healthy complexion. Not only have we reserved saddles for a number of our "regulars", but for a sizeable share of newcomers who have heard about the rides from friends or via the Bulletin, and who want to be in on the fun this coming summer.

The first (five-day) ride is leading as we go to press, boosted by some 18 members of Miss Elizabeth G. Smith's party, which comes in for further comment elsewhere in this edition.

Second largest group signed up to date includes Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Gilbert and son Lyman D., of Bowmansdale, Pa., and Charles K. Mabon, of New York. Two first-time townsomes include John R. Kelly and son, of North Bergen, N.J., and Mrs. Elsie Willan and daughter, Laura Ann, of Medicine Lodge, Kans.

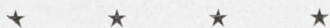
The association may well obtain valuable publicity through a write-up by the travel editor of "Mademoiselle" Magazine, Mrs. Mary Parker, who has signed up for Ride No. 1.

Honors for first registrant for a '54 ride go to "first-timer" Al McAlister of Vancouver, B.C. Mr. McAlister had his application in on January 4.

There are still empty saddles in that old trail ride corral and now is the time to line one up! The Secretary-Treasurer will send you confirmation by return mail.

"T-DAY" IN MID-JULY

CALL OF THE TRAILS SO HARD TO RESIST!



CALLING all Trail Riders — and others who feel like riding high for five or six zestful days in the timberline area of the Canadian Rockies!

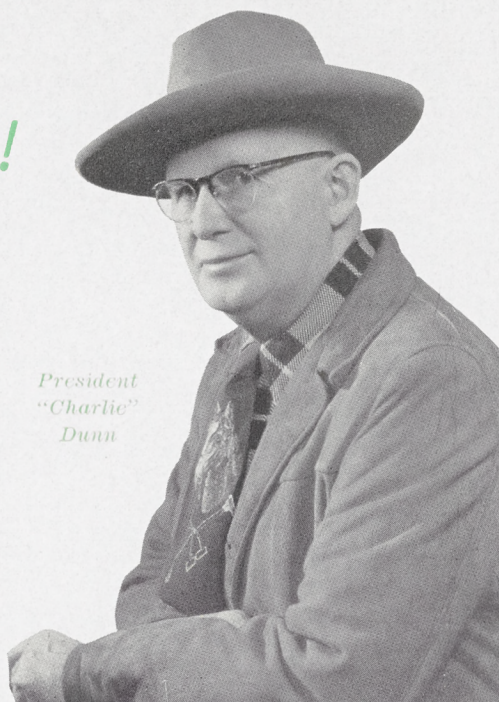
As we go to press, "T-Day" is a mere two months off — as opposed to the far-distant gleam on the larch-studded horizon it presented when we last went to press. So now is about as good a time as any to start making plans for what we maintain is just about the grandest brand of vacation on the summer syllabus.

Most of our readers will by now have a general idea of those (oh, so vital) statistics pertaining to the '54 rides. The Secretary-Treasurer, aided by such stalwarts as Frank Sabin, Ray Bagley, Tillie Knight and our good president, Charlie Dunn, has been replying to a flood of enquiries during the past few weeks — usually an accurate index of our numerical strength for trail days ahead.

No need, we hope, to remind you of the big dates which should, by now, be ringed in red on your favorite kitchen calendar. However, for those who have trouble with figures, we'll print 'em again just as a reminder. So, here they are:

Trail Ride No. 1 (Five-Day Ride): Friday, July 16th through Tuesday, July 20th; Trail Ride No. 2 (Six-Day Ride), Friday, July 23rd through Wednesday, July 28th. These dates, we'd like to remind you, have proven the most sunshine-worthy of the Rocky Mountain summertime — even though you may have been rained or snowed on during this period.

Now that you have the dates, you'll want to know more about your base campsite and the trails you'll ride once you get there. Summing up the latest reports from our Banff outfitter, we can brief you on that important matter, too.



President
"Charlie"
Dunn

Eleven little letters — A-s-s-i-n-i-b-o-i-n-e — give the 11,870-ft. answer! Yes, that grand-daddy of them all, Mount Assiniboine, that far-flung (straight upwards) Matterhorn of the Canadian Rockies, will be the king-sized hitching post (or at least the tip-top attraction) for this year's skyline saddleites.

The white spires of Tepee Town will dot a cozy segment of Bryant Creek Meadows — a glamorous name in Trail Ride topography — which in addition to the splendor of its own setting, gives access to trails with charms peculiarly their own. Main attraction will be the one-day ride to Mount Assiniboine via Assiniboine Pass and return by Wonder Pass — where members can enjoy a close-up view of the great snow-capped pyramid.

A fascinating alpine tarn—Owl Lake — will be the objective for another day's ride from base camp, while a ride up the fast-flowing Spray River (along the trail, of course) will constitute another exciting day in the saddle. Homeward bound, the cavalcade will follow the trail via Brewster Creek.

If you're saddle-weary already, here's good news. One day is set aside

as "Layover Day" — which means you can loaf around camp, take a pal or two and go fishing, take a camera and go snapping entries for the Townsend Trophy (awarded each year for the best trail ride photo of the year), or take a refresher course in botany — using a flower-studded alpine meadow for a study!

These, of course, are just a few suggestions. Other members — the hardier-than-thou (or me) type — may don their swim suits and cavort with the big ice cubes in an alpine tarn, or better still (much better) find a secluded spot and write poetry or something. If you prefer to remain in camp you might wish to prepare a skit for Stunt Nite, wash your sox, sun yourself by your tepee (and don't forget your sun glasses) or anything nearer to absolutely nothing that crosses your mind.

But let's get back to the beginning again. If you've been with us before,

you'll know all the ropes as far as registration, duffle preparation, etc., are concerned. But our ranks will contain a goodly number of newcomers who may feel a bit strange on their arrival in the bustling mountain resort. So for Mr., Miss or Mrs. Newcomer's benefit, here's how things go:

Every trail rider is requested to register at least one day before the ride. For the convenience of trail riders, a temporary registration office is set up in the Brewster Industries Building and Garage. The office advertises itself with a big sign: "Welcome Trail Riders — Register Here!" — while other helpful signs will be posted about town just in case you lose your way.

Entrance is on Bear Street, directly opposite the Crag and Canyon Building, and from then on, it's a matter of walking up a small flight of stairs and turning to the right till you smell buckskin jackets.

(Continued on page 14)



The Rockies have no monopoly on the scenery when the Trail Riders take to the hills! During the past few years a high type of scenic effect has been contributed by a group of teen-aged girls from Pennsylvania points and other parts of the eastern U.S. The talented youngsters, in charge of Miss E. G. Smith, of Jenkintown, Pa., give a particularly excellent account of themselves at the camp sing-songs and stunt night. The 1953 group is shown above with Miss Smith (fifth from right, standing) and Bud Brewster, outfitter, at extreme right.

Matterhorn of the Rockies

by DAN McCOWAN

★ ★ ★

SOME thirty-five miles southwest of Banff stands what in all probability is the most beautiful mountain in the Canadian Rockies. This coming summer it will be your good fortune as a member of the Trail Riders to visit this stately monolith and to camp on a flowery meadow not far from its massive and awe-inspiring pyramid.

It is not the highest mountain in this great chain (Alt. 11,879 ft.), but there is no other peak which equals it in beauty of line and form. Standing entirely

● **A colorful description of 11,879-ft. Mount Assiniboine, one of the most spectacular peaks in the Canadian Rockies, is presented here by one who has been there many times. Dan McCowan, noted Canadian naturalist and longtime associate of the Trail Riders, emphasizes the glamor of our principal objective on this year's rides.**

above timberline, and with small colorful lakes at its base, it has a setting that is truly magnificent. Great glaciers drape its rugged battlements — source of a thousand sparkling waterfalls. Gleaming snowfields clothe its steep upper slopes. The golden eagle spreads her brown sails to the wind and soars high above its topmost pinnacles. The grizzly bear roams its lower scree slopes in quest of marmots and other edible prey. Coveys of white-tailed ptarmigan inhabit its verdant base and cluck contentedly amongst the small alpine shrubs which grow in profusion on its sunny meadows.

In this district the main range of the Rockies straddles the Continental Divide, the Assiniboine region being mainly in British Columbia. The area in which Mount Assiniboine is centered forms a small Provincial Park administered from the capital city of Victoria.

The mountain was named by George M. Dawson of the Canadian Geological Survey in 1884. Although he only saw the mountain from afar he was nevertheless impressed by its apparent great height and he named it for the Indian tribe who habitually hunted in the neighborhood. It is possible that the peak may have been seen by the missionary De Smet in 1845, but he makes no mention of it in his narrative. No white man is known to have reached the base of Mt. Assiniboine until 1893 when R. L. Barrett, an American mountain climber, with the famous guide, Tom Wilson of Banff, made their way to its foot by way of Healy Creek, Simpson Pass and Simpson River.

Two years later Walter D. Wilcox formed one of a small party who made a complete circuit of Mt. Assiniboine, an estimated distance of 51 miles which occupied two full days. There was of course no trail and the journey was a strenuous one. In the "Rockies of Canada" (Putnam) one of the most outstanding books on this great range, Wilcox has a graphic chapter on the Assiniboine region.

First ascent of Mt. Assiniboine was made in September, 1901, by James Outram accompanied by the Swiss guides Christian Hasler and Christian Bohren. As can well be imagined it was a stiff climb and six hours elapsed before they finally reached the summit. In his fine book, "In the Heart of the Canadian Rockies" (MacMillan), Outram says:

"One at a time — the other two securely anchored — we crawled with the utmost caution to the actual highest point and peeped over the edge of the huge overhanging crest, down the sheer wall to a great shining glacier 6,000 feet or more below".

Trail riders are naturally concerned with trails and in this highland country

Don't forget these big dates !

Five-Day Ride — Friday, July 16 to Tuesday, July 20

Six-Day Ride — Friday, July 23 to Wednesday, July 28

there is plenty of open moorland over which one's steed may amble or trot, or even break into a mild gallop. The woods in these high valleys are thin, forming the upper fringe of the forest. Alpine balsam fir, spruce, and Lyall's larch are the most common trees, some of the latter, although stunted in growth, being undoubtedly of great age. The larch prudently discards its foliage in the autumn and thus avoids being uprooted by the fierce gales which in winter roar across the open uplands and sweep through gaps in the hills.

Some members of the Trail Riders organization are keen anglers who will doubtless be pleased to learn that in at least one of the lakes in this neighborhood good fishing is usually available. At the foot of Wonder Pass, through which there is a good trail, there is a small alpine lake called Marvel which contains large and lusty trout. The many streams which drain the region are also the home of fish of various species and, we hope, of ravenous appetite.

At the upper end of the valley in which Marvel Lake is cradled there is a

lofty peak named Mount Eon where on July 16th, 1921, Dr. Winthrop Stone, President of Purdue University, died whilst climbing. His wife, who accompanied him on the ascent and who was obliged to spend almost a week alone on a narrow ledge near the mountain top, was finally discovered and rescued by the Swiss guide Rudolph Aemmer. The body of her husband was later recovered by a search party.

The Alpine meadows and the hill-sides around Mount Assiniboine, sometimes spoken of as the Matterhorn of the Rockies, are in season extremely rich in wild flowers and these at time of the annual trail ride should provide a feast for the eye. Masses of great willow herb, or fireweed will display gay splashes of color to the passing rider. Indian paint brush should by then dot all the meadows, and harebells plentiful everywhere. Fleabane, of which there are almost a dozen varieties growing here, should be prominent and asters equally abundant. Gentians, arnica, and forget-me-not may hardly remain un-noticed and the dainty

(Continued on page 8)



A famed "hitching post" for Trail Riders — 11,879-ft. Mount Assiniboine, "Matterhorn of the Rockies", which will again be target for this year's cavalcade. Riders will approach the great snow-capped pyramid via Assiniboine Pass, returning by Wonder Pass to camp. Above: Two trail riders gaze in admiration.

MATTERHORN OF THE ROCKIES

(Continued from page 7)

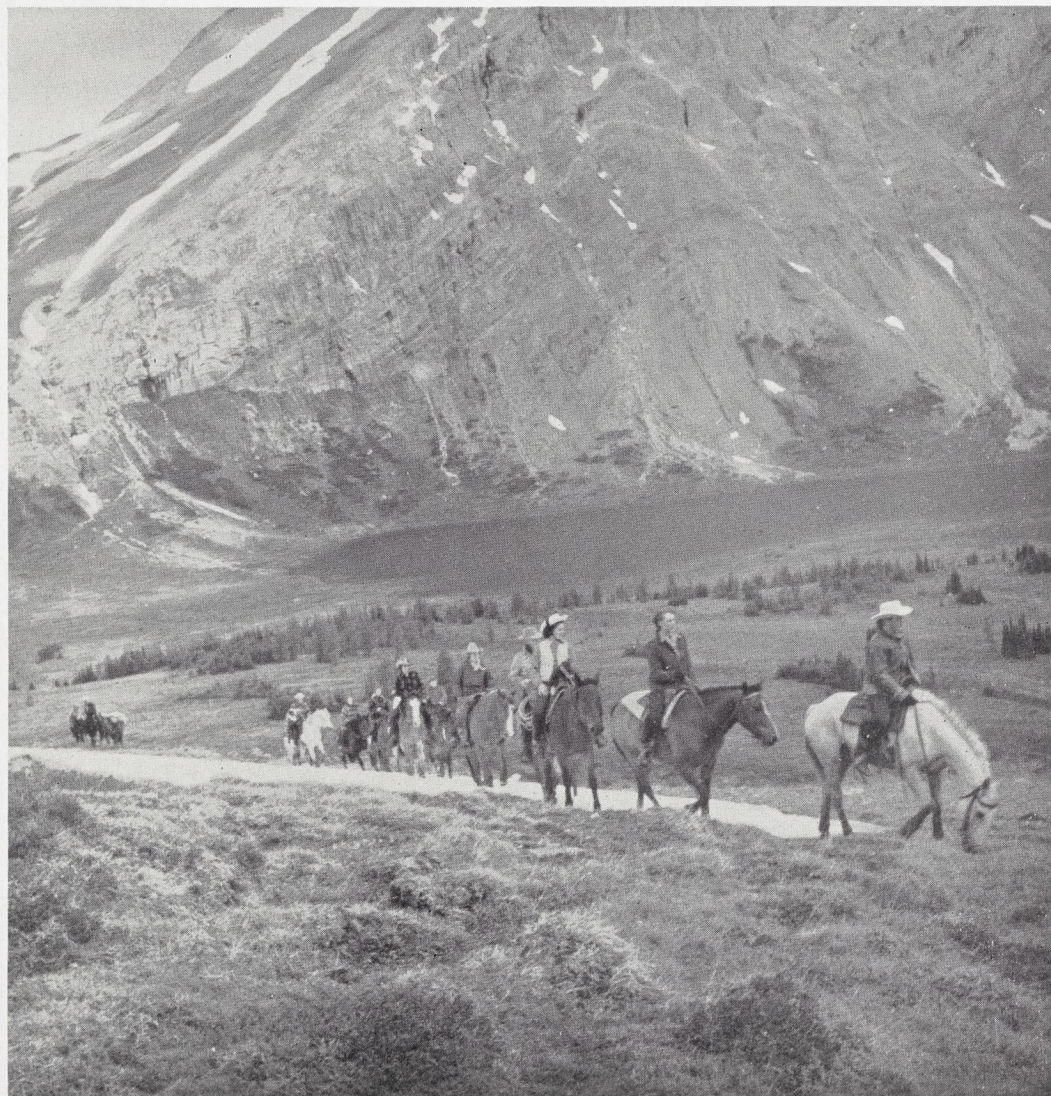
blue of larkspur will be sure to attract attention. Perhaps the most showy wild flower on upland meadows is mountain lily whose bright orange-red blossoms will, as ever, prove singularly attractive.

Of flowering shrubs native to the Assiniboine region there is none finer than the common wild rose, floral emblem of the neighboring Province of Alberta. Cinquefoil is one of the most abundant species of shrub rooted in this area and equally plentiful is Labrador tea and heath. While there is no true heather in the Canadian Rockies, a species of low-branching mountain shrub, a member of the heath family, has been given the name red mountain heather.

FIVE GOOD TIPS

1. Have your cinches looked to before you start and every time you stop for a rest on the ride.
2. Strap a slicker or raincoat behind your saddle in case of a shower.
3. Get on and off your horse with your left foot in the stirrup.
4. Sit with your shoulders back and ride with an easy balance.
5. Give your horse as well as yourself an hour for lunch at mid-day.

Column of trail riders negotiates grassy up-grade on alpine meadow on ride of '53. Area is typical of timberline country (alt. 7,200 ft.) in Banff-Lake Louise area of Canadian Rockies. Leading horse can't resist succulent alpine grass.





Trio in camp: Mrs. W. A. Fuerst, Cincinnati; Mrs. Hazel Sooy, Atlantic City, N.J., and Miss Ruth Woolley, Woodbury, N.J.—all members of six-day ride. Mrs. Fuerst and Miss Woolley are members of Trail Ride council.



Trail riding pair take time out to oblige cameraman. Horses, in contrasting colors, do likewise. It's said that trail ride horses are actually camera-conscious, and getting more that way every year.

"Thank You" Letter

The article appearing in the last Bulletin, with regard to the Marquess of Willingdon's efforts on behalf of wild life conservation, was the subject of a message of appreciation from our newest honorary member, who is president of the Fauna Preservation Society.

The letter, signed by Lord Willingdon's secretary, Lt.-Col. C. L. Boyle, reads as follows:

"Our president, Lord Willingdon, has asked me to thank you very much indeed for the very nice article which you published in 'Trail Riders'. He hopes that you will forgive him for not writing himself, but he is just off to Africa where, incidentally, he will be visiting many national parks.

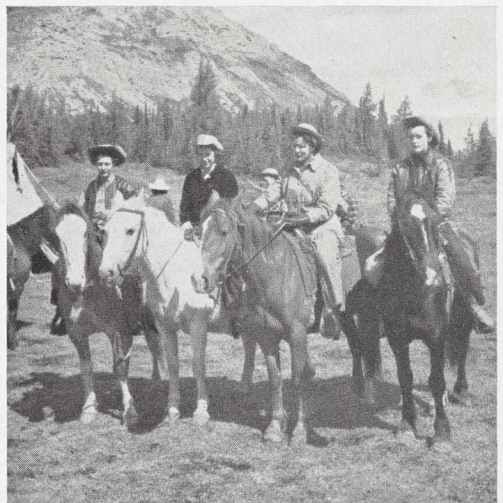
"You have been kind enough to comment favorably on our journal 'Oryx'. In the hope that further issues may also be of interest, I am putting 'Trail Riders' on our free distribution list."

This interesting publication is now on file in the Trail Riders' library in Montreal, while our own magazine 'Trail Riders' has been placed on the exchange list of the Fauna Preservation Society, whose headquarters are in London.

Miss Elaine Thomson, right, serves as "marker" for this column of equestriennes — all set for a day on the long, long trails. Miss Thomson found three fellow-Winnepeggers in the ranks, (left to right) Miss Donna Smale, Miss Patricia Busby and Miss Ruth Zickerman.



Miss Lois Laidlaw, centre, and two trail ride pallies line up before tepee to produce above effect Photo was taken on last year's ride.



REDMEN RE-CAPTURE ANCIENT GLORY AT 4-DAY BANFF PAGEANT

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Trail Riders arriving in Banff a day or so before the five-day contingent takes to the high hills, can enjoy at least a part of what many consider the most colorful event on the Rocky Mountain calendar.

This is the annual four-day Banff Indian Days Celebration, slated this year for July 15-18 inclusive. Early trail ride arrivals will, therefore, have the opportunity of witnessing the opening day's program of a pageant that has been delighting tourists every year since 1889.

Each morning features a gala parade of feathered chiefs, resplendent in their beaded finery, braves, and squaws (many toting a wide-eyed papoose) who ride their ponies — also decorated for the occasion — before admiring throngs of cheering and camera-clicking onlookers.

The parade takes the Indians from their temporary village, along Banff Avenue to the Bow River bridge where judging of feathers, beadwork and buckskin costumes takes place. The parade then continues to the courtyard of Banff Springs Hotel where prizes and "treaty money" are awarded the winning contenders.

During the afternoon, Indian sporting competitions, as well as stampede events, provide colorful entertainment at their camping ground beneath the shadow of

10,000-ft. Cascade Mountain. Evening entertainment on the grounds of Banff Springs Hotel features a unique program of native singing and dancing against an impressive backdrop of tepees and mountains. On the last day (Sunday), the Indians play host to their paleface brothers in their colorful tepee town.

As for the competitive events, they are strictly out of the white man's world! Highlighting the sports program are such attractions as bow and arrow contests, musical drums on horseback, tepee pitching contests, squaws' tug-of-war, pony "packing" contests, and numerous equestrian events calling for spectacular displays of Indian horsemanship.

The origin of Banff Indian Days is somewhat obscure. It is known, however, that that Bow River Valley, in which Banff is located, is an old hunting and camping ground of the Stony Indians. After they had been allotted their present reserve at Morley, 40 miles east, they continued to return to Banff each season for their Sundance and Pow-Wow. The event proved of such interest to visitors that it finally developed into the four-day tourist attraction it is today.

Those wishing further information are requested to write Banff Indian Days Committee, Banff, Alta.



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The rugged nature of the Mount Assiniboine country—target for this year's trail ride—is shown to striking advantage in this photo of Mount Eon and majestic glacier. White patches on slopes at left are sizeable snow fields, many of which linger through the crisp high-altitude summertime.

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Back on the trails again last summer (and we hope this summer too) above members were photographed during "off-trail" moments 'round about camp. They are, left to right: Mrs. W. A. (La Vera) Fuerst, Cincinnati, with Miss Helen Ramsay, Edmonton; Marshall H. Diverty, Woodbury, N.J.; Dr. Harold W. Price, Calgary, and Dr. Dorothy I. Muirhead, Hastings, Minn. All have been with the Trail Riders for a number of years and their combined mileage would make an impressive figure.

Trail Ride on Celluloid!



Members of the '52 cavalcade, who wish to relive those glorious (if sometimes snowy) moments in camp and on the trail, will welcome the debut of two topnotch motion picture films depicting that memorable ride!

Both filmed in striking color with musical background and running commentary, the films are entitled "Riding High" and "Skyline Trails", the former released by the Canadian Pacific Railway's department of public relations and the latter by the film and photographic branch of the Alberta Government's department of economic affairs.

Already acclaimed by viewers in Canada and the United States, the films should be of particular value in the Association's recruiting campaign for new members.

"Riding High", filmed by Bud Turner and Art Chetwynd, both members of the Trail Riders, has a running time of 18 minutes, shows impressive views of the cavalcade on the march, the spectacular mountain scenery in the "Sunshine" country south of Banff, and camp life with a liberal sprinkling of comedy.

"Skyline Trails", photographed by Bill Round, of Edmonton, a member of the

trail committee and former official photographer for the Association, has also captured the trail ride atmosphere with remarkable accuracy. Already shown on several occasions over TV networks in the U.S.A., the film was featured at the re-opening of the Hotel Sherman in Chicago before an audience of 800.

Prints of "Skyline Trails" were also placed on National Film Board circuits in Canada and the United States several months ago, with additional distribution of the film in both countries.

Copies of "Riding High" have been placed in film libraries maintained by Canadian Pacific offices in Canada and the U.S.A. Further information regarding the two films may be obtained by writing the Secretary-Treasurer, Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, Room 294, Windsor Station, Montreal, Que.



DON'T FORGET!

All duffle must be deposited at the Mount Royal Hotel by 4:00 p.m. on the day before the commencement of each Trail Ride. This enables our outfitter to have the duffle transported to our central camp well in advance of our arrival.

ICEBERG LAKES AND PAINT POTS

The Charms of Kootenay Park

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SINCE Kootenay National Park in British Columbia stands high on the agenda for future campsites, the foregoing review of the park's scenic charms should be of interest to members.

Originally established to preserve the natural scenery along the route of the Banff-Windermere Highway, first road built across the central Canadian Rockies, the park is some 60 miles in length and extends on either side of the highway for approximately five miles. This brings its many scenic attractions within easy access of the visitor.

Deep canyons, thundering waterfalls, an iceberg lake and hot mineral springs are among the varied menu of spectacular attractions on which the camper's eye can feast.

One of the most interesting features of the park is the famed Radium Hot Springs where hot mineral springs, bubbling out of the rock at a temperature of 114 degrees Fahrenheit, are fed into outdoor swimming pools. Believed to have curative properties, the springs have been used by Indians and whites since the earliest explorations of the region.

A trip through Kootenay National

Park provides one of the most scenic tours in the Rockies. It includes the brilliantly colored walls of Sinclair Canyon, a spectacular cleft in the mountain wall; the "Iron Gates", towering red rock sentinels on either side of the Kootenay River Valley, and the winding course of the Vermilion River to Vermilion Pass, which marks the boundary between Kootenay and Banff National Parks. The area abounds in Rocky Mountain sheep and goats, elk, moose deer and bear.

Many natural wonders may be found within easy hiking distance. Trails lead to Floe Lake, dotted in summer with small icebergs which break from the lip of Floe Glacier, and to the "Paint Pots", ochre springs which once were used by Indians as a source of ceremonial paint. Other trails lead over mountain passes into Banff and Yoho National Parks.

Marble Canyon — where Trail Riders would in all probability take to the trail — is one of Nature's outstanding spectacles and is reached by a short trail from the highway. Here the swirling waters of Tokumm Creek have worn through layers of white and gray marble to a depth of 200 feet, leaving the canyon walls decorated with stripes of mottled color. A

natural bridge of rock and a 70-foot waterfall add to the spectacle.

It will be recalled by our older members that the Association had its birth on Wolverine Plateau in the area during a mid-summer snowstorm. The region has been revisited since by Trail Riders and Hikers on more than one occasion.

Everything's informal on the trail ride—even the annual meeting which took place on the grounds of Banff Springs Hotel immediately prior to the big pow-wow.



Lib Smith and Party Sign Up for Ride

★ ★ ★

Here's good news for Trail Riders who appreciate a seasoning of youthful enthusiasm in camp and on the trail! Maybe you've guessed it: Lib Smith and her teen-age troupers (as the editor likes to call them) will again be back to brighten the trail ride scene.

Accompanied by Miss Elizabeth G. "Lib" Smith, of Jenkintown, Pa., the girls, who hail largely from Pennsy and nearby States, will comprise a sizeable segment of the passenger list for Trail Ride No. 1—July 16-20. Latest reports from Miss Lib indicate their numerical strength will be in the vicinity of 20.

Well-known and highly popular with members during the past five years, the girls make an annual habit of holidaying at nearby Kananaskis Ranch before taking to the high hills with the big cavalcade. Here the junior saddleites not only enjoy a "refresher course" in horsemanship, but also qualify for bigger and better trail ride buttons.

In the vanguard of fun and frolic at all times — whether it be a July snowball fight or dunking a cowboy in a glacial rivulet — the girls are at their best when campfire times rolls around. Here they have no equal for versatility. They can ham Hamlet in one act and harmonize sentimentally in the next. Example of latter: their theme song, "Tell Me Why."

Though each successive group features a whopping majority of new faces, there are frequently a few "repeaters" from other years. One of these, who just couldn't bid the Rockies goodbye, was a valued member of last year's cooktent staff. Yes, seems as though the admiration is a two-way proposition.

Personalities in the trail ride picture of '53. Top to bottom: Edward H. Carus, of Peru, Ill., finds nothing wrong with morning ablutions at the rugged trail ride water-shelf. The ladies seem equally satisfied with the "ferro-plate" mirrors! (2) Bill Round and June Lavereau pass the "vittles" (3) Coffee break at home was never sweeter than this, even though the chairs here aren't upholstered; (4) Ray Bagley in happy pose.



HOMESICK HORSE



"Banff — 40 miles". So reads the signpost. And that's a long way from camp. Though horses occasionally get homesick for the old corral they seldom take French leave in this fashion. Or if they do, they're soon rounded up again. Drawing was submitted by Lois Laidlaw whose favorite hobby—next to trail riding—is drawing. Her favorite subject: horses, of course.

CALL OF THE TRAILS

(Continued from page 5)

Here you "check in", pay the balance of your fees, and receive a trail ride ticket, bus ticket, sleeping bag ticket (if you want one) a number for your horse and tags for your duffle.

You can also help yourself to a profusely illustrated trail ride map folder, copies of the Bulletin, any number of pamphlets, purchase a trail ride button or map, and study our itinerary from a super map on the wall. You can also pick out your tepee mates with the aid of the "housing committee" chairman.

There's no eight-hour day in force for the registration office the night before "T-Day". We stay open till 9 o'clock—and sometimes later — just so we'll have everyone checked in before the hustle, bustle and excitement of early morning departure.

D-Day (D for duffle), however, has no such generous limits. Duffle bags are transported from Banff by truck to trail-head where they are transferred to the backs of sturdy pack ponies for the journey into camp. In order to have the duffle distributed in camp well before the arrival of the trail riders, it is necessary for the outfitter to complete transportation arrangements the day before. This means that all duffle should be ready for pickup by 4:00 p.m. on the afternoon before we take off.

The truck makes only two calls for duffle — one at Banff Springs Hotel and

the other at the Mount Royal Hotel at Banff's main intersection. All duffle, incidentally, should be carefully packed and tied to withstand the rigors of trail transportation. And to each unit should be affixed a red Trail Rider's tag displaying owner's name and address. The tags are available at the registration office.

The zero hour for bus departure is nine o'clock. But one hour before that you'll see two or three sleek, glass-topped buses of the Brewster Transport Company lined up outside the Mount Royal Hotel waiting to take on their colorfully garbed cargo!

If you're smart, you'll get up good and early on T-Day. You may find you've overlooked some item — such as sun lotion, camera film, cigarettes, etc. — and wish to take a last-minute shopping tour at a nearby drug store or confectioner. By making an early start you'll be able to attend to such matters without risking a mad scramble for the bus.

"All aboard!" It's the last call for buses. You wave from the windows at envious throngs who (for all we know) may be making plans to go trail riding themselves next year! Leaving Banff, the bus proceeds eastward along the main trans-Canada highway to Canmore, a picturesque little town 15 miles distant. Here buses leave the highway and move onto the new Calgary Power Company road from which you'll enjoy a side order of spectacular alpine panorama. After a trip of some 35 miles (from Banff) the buses pull to a stop at the Upper Spray River dam where the horses, all saddled up, are waiting to meet and greet their companions of the next five (or six) days.

For the next half hour, riders and horses will be milling about in the corral, testing their stirrups, tightening their cinches, or making trial leaps in and out of their saddles. Others will be waiting —perched atop their mounts as the veterans they are—or helping new members to feel at home—a task that happily takes little time when trail riders get together!

And that, Trail Riders, is about as concise a picture as we can give at the time of writing. It isn't easy to translate that zestful spirit of camaraderie, the pungent scent of pine, or the heavenly aroma of flapjacks into words. You'll find a better translation through the collection of photos in this issue. But to enjoy it all to the full — just be on hand when we take to the trails.

WHAT TO BRING?

Now's the Time to Plan Your Duffle!

★ ★ ★

"WHAT should I take on the trail ride?" This question is foremost in the minds of practically every potential member about to experience his or her first trip with the Trail Riders. And the answer may well mean the difference between a happy time and a not so happy time for the individual concerned.

The subject of clothing is of paramount importance — for comfort, warmth and style, in that order! That means you'll have to be saddle-happy, foot-happy and just plain happy in all kinds of weather—and we've been known to get all kinds in *rare* instances.

It should be remembered that days are generally warm and sunny and nights cold in the Canadian Rockies — even during mid-July. We camp at extremely high altitudes and even after a warm day the night temperatures might easily dip into the thirties. (Brrrr!)

And when it's raining in Banff, that same storm may well be dropping snowflakes on the upland areas, though this is by far the exception rather than the rule. But we'd much prefer you to be forewarned than frozen.

Riding breeches and jodhpurs are standard apparel with some riders, but most riders, both men and women, prefer plain blue denim or regulation khaki slacks. Long underwear, by the way, is a "must" with blue jeans, if riding discomfort is to be avoided.

If riding boots are used, a pair of comfortable walking shoes, as well as slippers or moccasins, should be included. Rubber boots or just good sturdy rubbers are highly appropriate in the early morning hours when the grass is weighed down with heavy alpine dew. Several

(Continued on page 28)

Past-President C. M. "Jock" Smith, of Vancouver, B.C., and two trail companions, photographed against backdrop of snow-crowned peak during last summer's ride. A veteran member of the Association, Jock is noted for his tireless energy, particularly at the woodpile. For every mile he's covered on the trail, Jock's split at least one armful of firewood.



A refreshing pause on the trail, when grass feels good after the saddle. Three at left are Edward H. Carus, Peru, Ill.; Frank E. Sabin, Eureka, Mont., and our M.C., Miss June Lavereau of Toronto. Frank was acting president last summer in the absence of Dr. H. J. Vanek.

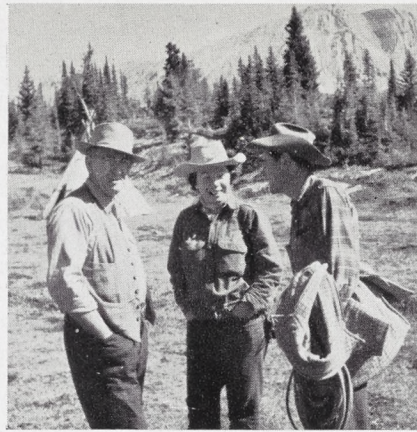


One more river to cross — and Lois Laidlaw crosses it in true trail ride fashion. Sure-footed mounted ponies are as much at home plodding their way over the rocks of a river bed as they are negotiating the trails on either side





Happy foursome among the tepees is centred by veteran Ray Bagley, of Crowsnest Ranch, Coleman, Alta., left, and Dr. Harold W. Price, of Calgary. "Uncle Ray" is one of our most ardent boosters.



They're trying to decide how to pose for this pic, but the shutter beat them to it. Casually caught, from left to right: Frank E. Sabin, of Eureka, Mont.; Dr. Dorothy I. Muirhead, of Hastings, Minn., and Outfitter Bud Brewster.



Shooting the ride for Cinemascope, Cameraman Jack Painter, of Movie-tone Short Subjects, New York, chats with Bill Round of Edmonton, centre, another well-known cameraman.



Horses and riders — Popular members of the '53 cavalcade stop their favorite cayuse! We hope that all those depicted will be back to enjoy the fun again at this year's camp. "Salut-



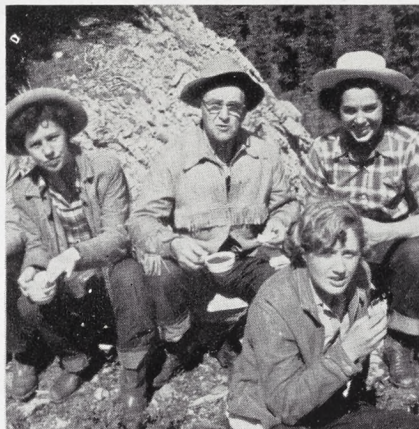
A lazy interlude in camp, with four well-known trail riders making the most of their leisure. Left to right: Miss June Lavereau, of Toronto, our mistress of ceremonies during last year's rides; Bill Round, of Edmonton, our trail riding photog; Marshall H. Diverty, of Woodbury, N.J., and Miss Diana McNair.



Group of Trail riders line up in formation for "just one more photo" before the cavalcade takes off for the high hills. Group includes Ches McNair, of Great Falls, Mont., second from left, who has steered a number of members up our way; as well as Fred Laidlaw, of Vancouver, and Marshall Diverty, of Woodbury, N.J., at extreme right.



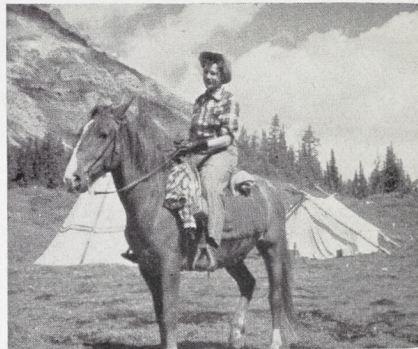
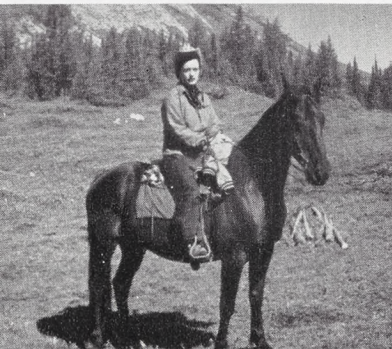
It would be the wrong moment to ask President Frank E. Sabin, centre, for a match. Far better to wait till he gets those plates down — as well as the golden-brown flapjacks. It's breakfast time in camp and slightly chilly.



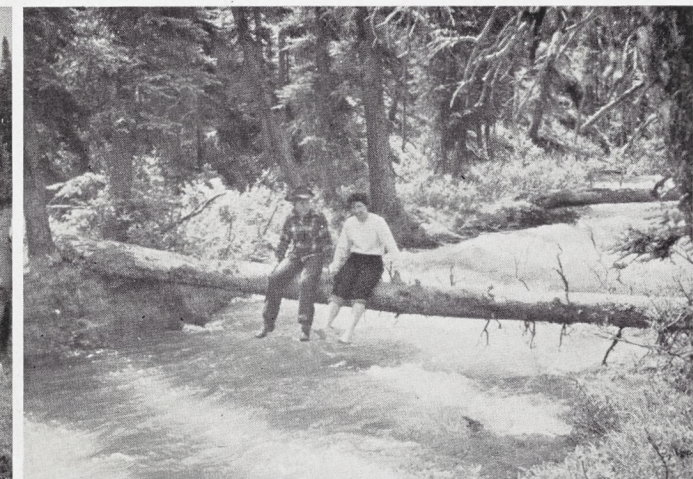
Speaking about Frank Sabin and steaming black coffee (see picture at left) we present the two here, surrounded by three pretty trail riders. They have covered some territory since breakfast time.



Fred Laidlaw, of Vancouver, official Trail Ride photographer, let someone else take this one. And to prove it, that's Fred at extreme right. Seated at his right is Miss Elizabeth G. Smith, of Jenkintown, Pa.



ing" the fair equestrians (third photo from left) are Past-President Frank Sabin and Outfitter Bud Brewster. Both did a fine job . . . and we salute them.



It's a somewhat precarious — if refreshing and panoramic — perch occupied by these two trail riders. That fast-flowing water has more than a glacial color — it also has a glacial temperature! Much of last year's trail followed the course of alpine streams and rivulets which horses were compelled to wade across at certain vantage points.



Birthdays do not lose their significance on the trail-ride — even though most of us do feel years younger when we return to civilization. And what would a birthday be without a birthday cake — or a birthday cake without candles? Lib Smith, above, supervises the cutting.



A large number of Trail Riders and Skyline Trail Hikers suffered a personal loss late last summer when Mrs. Sydney May Graves passed away in Banff Mineral Springs Hospital. Mrs. Graves, a sister of Claude B. Brewster, had managed Lake O'Hara Lodge for almost 30 years, and was a gracious hostess to members of the trail associations on a number of occasions. Mrs. Graves, an ardent lover of the trails, is seen here with one of her favorite mounts.

THE PRE-RIDE SOCIAL

The pre-ride get-together — until last year an experimental project — has emerged as a highly successful, and no doubt permanent, fixture of the trail ride season.

Designed to facilitate the introduction of new members and to afford others the opportunity of a reunion before taking to the trails, the event was held last year on July 23rd — the night before the six-day ride took off.

This year, in view of last year's success, perhaps we can make it a double feature so as to include members of both trips. This will depend on the membership's viewpoint but there seems little likelihood of its not carrying.

All that is required is a hall for the evening — Banff has several ideally suited to our needs that can be rented for a nominal fee — and an impromptu bill of entertainment.

The latter has taken the form of films, kindly loaned by the National Parks, as well as kodachromes taken by Trail Riders themselves on previous rides.

It's the Last Call For "Townsend Pics"

There's still time to send in that trail ride photo and make a final bid for the gleaming silver Townsend Trophy!

Though to date we have received a sizeable sizzling array of entries we still have room for another. In other words we'll extend the deadline date to give those last-minute types a chance to feature their photographic wares!

The only date that matters is the date of the ride. The photo or photos must have been snapped on the Trail Ride of 1953 — either in and around camp or on the trail between the time of departure and time of return.

In addition to having his or her name inscribed on the trophy itself, the winner is awarded a small replica of the cup, a mounted matte enlargement of the winning photo, and its reproduction in the Bulletin.

So it's last call for Townsend entries! You still have a chance. Let's hear from you!



It's a white horse against a white background, so you can't expect too much contrast. What's more, it's a miniature, as are all horses and accessories in the collection of Miss Isabella M. Kays, of Glendale, Cal., who accompanied the Trail Riders in 1950. Miss Kays, who has contributed articles for the Bulletin in the past, hopes to join the cavalcade again.

J. M. Gibbon Memorial Fund



OBJECTIVE: \$350.00. Amount collected: \$308.00.

These figures indicate the present status of the John Murray Gibbon Memorial Fund inaugurated by Trail Riders and Skyline Trail Hikers of the Canadian Rockies to erect a suitable memorial to their late founder and champion.

This leaves the fund a mere \$42.00 shy of its objective. The remainder, however, should be quickly subscribed through members of both associations who have pledged further assistance if and when the fund should require a final boost to put it over the top.

The bronze plaque, designed by Charles A. Beil, of Banff, noted Canadian sculptor and artist, and a longtime friend of Dr. Gibbon, was completed last year and installed in the little Banff cemetery

where the late author's ashes were buried at a special committal service.

Names of Trail Riders and Skyline Trail Hikers whose contributions have helped swell the fund since our last edition, are listed below:

Miss Jerry Siegfried, Wichita, Kans.; Miss Elizabeth G. Smith, Jenkintown, Pa.; J. Alisdair Fraser, Montreal, Que.; Mrs. R. C. Riley, Calgary, Alta.; Marshall H. Diverty, Woodbury, N.J.; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Douglas, Calgary, Alta.; Sidney Hollander, Baltimore, Md.; G. A. Doeller, Dayton, Ohio; Miss Idella M. Blume, San Francisco, Cal.; Rev. Ruth S. Conant, Hartford, Conn.

Contributions should be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer, who will acknowledge receipt and list donor's name in next issue of "Trail Riders".

● The editor wishes to extend a sincere "Thank you" to all members who have submitted news, articles and photographic material for reproduction in the Trail Riders magazine.

Inasmuch as we have no alternative source of copy (other than that invented by the editor) such material is always received here with open arms. And judging by letters received from gracious correspondents, our colleagues are submitting a popular brand of subject matter.

True, we sometimes lack the space to include all material submitted, in any one issue. But those responsible for its preparation may be assured that all such material holds priority in subsequent editions of the mag.

BIRDS AND DEER STEADY PATRONS*Wild-Life Restaurant*

by DAN McCOWAN

★ ★ ★

OUR old established back-yard cafe in the mountains at Banff opens annually around Thanksgiving Day and from then until Easter we have no lack of furred and feathered customers. Some arrive by air while others come on foot and all in common have hearty appetites. Of late the increased cost of living has resulted in fewer people donating food to the mendicant mule deer who habitually



Feathered customers at the Wild-Life Restaurant — a chirpy trio of chickadees. We haven't seen the menu but from all appearances the birdies are enjoying a blue-plate special.

forsake the forest in autumn and spend the winter in town.

It should perhaps be mentioned that Banff is situated in a National Park, a wild life sanctuary where shooting and trapping is forbidden and where even predatory animals and birds of prey are protected. Thus, when snow lies deep in the pine woods many elderly deer seek to avoid the skulking mountain lion and the hungry wolf by taking up residence within the town limits. In recent years the patrons of our open-air restaurant have so increased in numbers that providing even one meal daily for them is somewhat of a problem. However, lacking bird neighbors on the window sill and friendly animals on the doorstep the winter would seem longer and the coming of spring more tardy.

Our most regular guests are Clarke's crows or nutcrackers. These raucous-voiced birds, peculiar to the western mountains of North America, normally depend on the seed of the Douglas fir tree for food but are highly elated when given a bone to pick. It matters little that the bone is bare of meat or fat. Gristle is caviar to these grey crows of the Rockies and Selkirks and they will gladly spend hours in hacking out a small quantity of the tough tissue from its base. The better to obtain intimate photographs of the busy birds we sometimes anchor a fair-sized bone to the lunch counter outside the kitchen window. Like the Canada jay Clarke's crow is a confirmed food hoarder and portable food stuff is subject to almost immediate carry and cache.

About one-half pound weight is the maximum flight load for these birds and edible material is usually stowed away on the flat branches of neighboring spruce trees where it is out of reach of mice and mule deer. But magpies, too wary to come to table for an honest meal, loot the larders of the grey crows thus compelling the wrathful owners to hide their emergency rations in secret nooks under the snow. They have amazingly good memories, seldom if ever losing track of small scraps of food buried in the heart of a deep snow drift. By mid-February their attendance at our food board has become less frequent as by that time of year many of them are already paired and have nest building operations under way. Except for the great horned owls and the Canada jays, the nutcrackers are possibly the earliest nesting birds in North America.

Individuals of two species of chickadee, namely the black-capped and Gambel's, are usually on hand when meals are served. Their favorite winter fodder is suet, if and when available. They also apparently are fond of salted peanuts, coconut in the half shell and the like. Their table manners are above reproach as one might expect from birds so markedly sociable as these blithe



That "Free Lunch" sign would be tempting to any number of customers, but unfortunately it applies to deer only (see small print). The mule deer, shown tucking it away in a Banff backyard, finds the free feed a special boon when a major share of his diet lies under the deep snows. He is, however, generally late for breakfast.



sprites of the greenwoods. Like the grey crows they too hoard surplus food, generally hiding the precious crumbs in tree bark crevices. Cracks in the pickets of our garden fence are in winter well stocked with the meaty kernels of assorted nuts.

On a bitter day in February when the mercury was far below zero we found an apparently lifeless chickadee under the food board. Brought indoors it soon revived and was immediately at home in its new surroundings. From

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**● Furred and feathered visitors dine sumptuously through winter months in Banff backyard "restaurant". The cafe, operated by the writer, opens around Thanksgiving Day and is well patronized on into Easter. Some arrive by air, others on foot, but all have one thing in common — hearty appetites!**  
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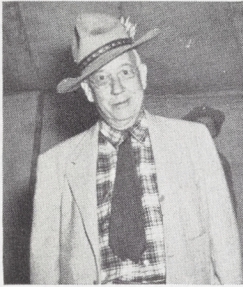
time to time it drank from the drip of the kitchen tap, sampled cake and other breadstuffs at will and at nightfall roosted amidst the green foliage of a geranium. When, two days later, the blizzard had given place to bright sunshine we returned this diverting little guest to the great outdoors and to the company of others of its kind. Doubtless it had an amazing story to tell.

The house sparrows are always with us and ever watchful for a handout. During the past winter these feathered vagrants who had become habitual patrons of our outdoors buffet mourned the loss of several of their group. For some time they had convenient daytime sanctuary and nightly sleeping quarters in the heart of a thick-set spruce hedge border-

ing part of our property. But about Christmas time a pygmy owl, discovering their place of refuge, captured a number of them and dispersed the awe stricken survivors. Now when they do venture to return for a hasty snack they are markedly apprehensive.

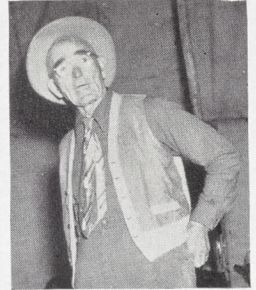
Few of the mule deer, who in winter are amongst our regular guests, appear in time for breakfast. Having been kept awake for most of the night by noisy coyotes, owls and other nocturnal pests it is doubtless pleasant to bask lazily in morning sunshine. However most of them are on hand in early afternoon for a salad of potato and apple peelings or for a heaping plate of shop-worn cabbage and celery donated by a neighboring grocery store. A few small potatoes or several succulent carrots forms a special Sunday treat, usually greeted by eloquent grunts which we choose to interpret as gratitude.

Before the snows of winter have become soiled and unsightly the rosy finches are again in our midst. These grey crowned visitors come to the Canadian Rockies to nest on limestone cliffs and crags near to the mountain tops and far above timberline. Awaiting the melting of upland snow they gather in huge flocks in the valleys. While the nestlings are reared on a chowder of insects gleaned from the surface of high snowfields the normal adult diet is seeds. While we have not been hosts to great numbers of these modestly clad yet attractive little finches, a survey of their likes and dislikes has revealed that a little rolled oats goes a long way but that uncooked wheat germ cereal is eagerly devoured by these feathered mountaineers.



M. H. DIVERTY

GRAND POW-WOW VOTED BIG SUCCESS AT BANFF



RAY BAGLEY

"IT WAS A grand pow-wow." That's what they all said about the grand finale to last year's trail rides on the athletic grounds of Banff Springs Hotel.

Beginning with a delectable camp supper, served by Ruth Brewster and her Kananaskis staffers, the event was highlighted by a breezily-paced program of entertainment, introductions, addresses, and presentations in the big Sundance tent which was rushed from Baker Lake camp to be present for the occasion.

The annual pow-wow serves more than one useful, or perhaps even vital, purpose insofar as the Association is concerned. Its original purpose was to give members, resident in Banff and vicinity, who could not attend the rides, an opportunity of hearing about it and meeting its participants.

And for the active trail riders it fulfils an equally important mission. It makes the transition from five or six carefree days in the wilderness to civilization more gradual by serving as a "stepping stone". It has long been considered virtually treason to appear at the pow-wow

in anything but trail ride attire! . . . even if the shirts and denims do have a freshly ironed look.

The presence of the big "Doughnut" assembly tent, despite its smooth grassy floor, also relieves the nostalgia somewhat for those pining for what recently was Tepee Town far back on the trail! Even the supper is served trail ride style, with the same crockery, cutlery and the same choice of good eats.

The pow-wow also featured the presentation of the big silver Townsend Trophy which was accepted by Clarence Richards for Miss Mary S. Lore, of Calgary, who could not be present for the occasion. The new slate of officers, elected at the council meeting, was announced to the assembly, and Lib Smith's choristers demonstrated what they knew about close harmony!

As is generally the case, the audience included a number of prominent Banff townspeople, a few hotel guests, and a liberal sprinkling of past presidents and other officers of the Association. A number of Skyline Hikers also attended.



Back from the wilds, but still wearing blue jeans as becomes a young trail rider, this trio makes the most of a camp supper on the athletic grounds of Banff Springs Hotel. Supper is feature of annual pow-wow.



Washing dishes is not a chore when the job is done in the right atmosphere by the right folks! Camp cutlery and crockery is used for the last time at pow-wow supper in Banff. And the menu is really something to remember.



Self service at Pow-Wow supper.



Cafeteria lineup — Pow-Wow style



Ruth Brewster ladles the coffee.



No grounds for complaint.



Farewell supper outside the Big Top.

Something New in Vacations



CAN you picture yourself riding the trails of the Canadian Rockies in a western saddle, on a sure-footed cayuse, and with as grand a group of trail riding pals as you could ever meet? Can you picture yourself garbed in western attire as a part of a colorful cavalcade of riders proceeding along trails that extend above the timberline?

If the idea appeals to you, if you're a man or woman with a yen for camp life, and if you can ride a horse even reasonably well, we invite you to join us on the 31st annual skyline ride of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies in July, 1954.

You'll have the time of your life. You'll see breath-taking sights in the spectacular Banff-Lake Louise region and visit flower-strewn alpine meadows, snow-fields, and other beauty spots inaccessible by any means other than on horseback. You'll sleep in a cozy sleeping bag, in picturesque canvas tepees fabricated and designed by Stony Indians of the Alberta foothills. You'll eat delectable meals prepared by skilled camp cooks.

You'll experience the joys of real fellowship as you join fellow trail riders at the evening campfire singsong. You'll

meet interesting people from all over Canada, the United States and from farther afield. You'll find unlimited opportunities for fishing, photography and native study.

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**● It takes more than words and photos to paint the trail ride in its true colors. You've got to be there, perched atop the old western saddle, jogging along the pine-scented trails, and inhaling the aroma of flapjacks to really capture the atmosphere. Accompanying article, however, may be something of a help in planning a trip with the Trail Riders — something new in vacations!**  
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At the ride's conclusion you'll be eligible for membership in the Trail Riders' organization, a non-profit association, founded by a group of riders and now perpetuated by the members alone. You will also be entitled to wear one of the order's official membership buttons and to qualify for a position on the executive or council.

If you think you have the makings of a Trail Rider, come on along and introduce yourself. And if you have a friend in same category bring him or her along too. We'll assure you a warm western welcome.



It's morning in Trail Ride camp and early riders are soaping up at the famed camp water shelf. Basins contain heated glacial water that really lathers. Ferroplates nailed to the log uprights provide excellent substitute for mirrors.



"STUNT NIGHTERS" *Do it Again!*



That exclusive trail riders' creation—Stunt Nite—again lived up to its reputation as being just about the zaniest and wackiest show on earth!

With each tepee working up an act, and each troupe trying to outdo its rivals, the results were all that might be expected — Hilarious.

It was one of few shows that did not require a prompter. If an actor forgot his lines he couldn't care less — and the audience laughed twice as hard. In that case he simply ad-libbed, making up the dialogue as he went along.

Costumes and props showed the usual trend of originality, with blankets and towels serving as robes, and turbans, and make-up art that would make a Hollywood artist sit up and take notice!



As Shakespeare said: "What manner of mortal be this?" But don't be alarmed. It's only a trail rider going into his act at Stunt Nite — an occasion where each tepee puts on an act.

With June Lavereau directing things, the show was voted one of the best in years. The laughter helped cure the blues that invariably set in on that last night before we return to civilization.

Unfortunately no talent scouts got wind of the show in time to attend. However, plenty of photos were taken that will be forwarded on (talent scout's) request. The three appearing on this page are indicative of the dramatic trend.



"And the bride carried a twig of evergreen." You may never have read this in your favorite social column but here you're seeing it happen. For the actual wedding ceremony, of those depicted, see page 28.



It's another bit of drama with Trail Riders in the forefront. Though the writer missed this act, it seems to be more comedy than tragedy — depending on whether you are a lover of the drama or not.

THE DUFFLE BAG

by Charley Horse

June Lavereau, popular M.C. of last year's camp, foregoing Rockies this summer for overseas tour. June will be missed at campfire time. Still looking for successor . . . Proud papa Keith Hoffmeyer of son Kenneth: "He likes cowboys, Indians, horses and me" — should make a good trail rider! . . . Smoki (Patton) Stuck, serving with U.S. Air Force, nostalgic for T.R. anecdotes. Look these over, Smoki.

Ray Bagley, trail riders' goodwill ambassador extraordinary, signing up potential members on travels through sunny California . . . Congratulations to Bill Rounds — Maureen Frances, born March 15th — "a 1964 trail rider," says Bill . . . Marshall Diverty planning (we hear) two saddle sorties — perhaps in Icefields and Skoki area. Hope our bon vivant has the six-day ride included in plans.

We're not forgotten by Rilla (Jones) MacNichol of Calgary. Writes Rilla: "It's about time for another T.R. Bulletin. I could do with a bit of cheerful reading" . . . Helen Wischmeyer reported in Laurentian ski country for a week early this winter, and enjoying the sport in small quantities. This banner news for trail ride pals . . . Ella Ferris (TR '53) says spring a little late this year in Eureka, Mont. Back she'll be this year with cavalcade on five-day trip.

Tillie Knight, our lady veep and camp guardian, keeping editor briefed on Banff goings-on. Last heard of taking off for Temple Chalet to enjoy ski week-end. Next to saddle, Tillie likes the flying hickories . . . Fred Laidlaw's '53 photo crop popular with last year's saddleites. See examples in current issue . . . Names of potential new members received from last year's chief exec Frank Sabin of Eureka. Frank happy with "super-duper" T.R. button, gift of association for last year's expert leadership.

Anyone heard of Harold Calhoun lately? Still listed as a citizen of Tappen, B.C., Harold's laugh last rocked our camp back in '51 . . . "Can't get the trail ride off my mind," says Dorothy Hayward. We're still waiting for that comeback on the trails, Dot . . . Claude Brewster happy with Trail Riders letterhead. Editor has offered to trade engraving for horse that will stand still until latter is in (or out of) saddle . . . That's all folks.

RED LETTER EVENTS

● Though the Trail Riders' camp constitutes the red-letter event for most of us, the Rocky Mountain calendar is brimming with other major attractions for the visitor.

For the benefit of those planning trips to Calgary, Banff or Lake Louise during the coming summer season, we print below some of the feature attractions scheduled for '54:

July 5-10: Calgary Stampede.

July 15-18: Banff Indian Days.

July 16-20: Five-Day Trail Ride.

July 23-28: Six-Day Trail Ride.

July 26-Aug. 28: Canadian Alpine Club.

July 31-Aug. 4: Skyline Trail Hike.

June 21-Sept. 11: Banff Fine Arts School.

Don't Take Chances With Hotel Space!

● Trail Riders are urged to make their Banff hotel reservations well in advance — and to have confirmation of their space, in the form of letter or wire, with them to speed checking-in operations.

It should be remembered that Banff's permanent population is swollen each summer by thousands of tourists and it's extremely difficult and at times impossible to secure accommodation at the last minute.

Trail Riders should have hotel space for at least one night before the rides leave Banff, i.e., the night of July 15th or July 22nd, and for the night they return from the trails, i.e., July 20th or July 28th. The groups return to Banff at approximately 5:00 p.m. in both cases.

For the convenience of our members, we print below a list of some of Banff's better known hotels:

Banff Springs Hotel, Mount Royal Hotel, King Edward Hotel, Cascade Hotel, Homestead Hotel, The Villa, Mountainholm Lodge, Upper Hot Springs Hotel, Alpine Club Lodge. Visitors can also obtain good accommodation at a number of tourist camps, cabins and private homes in and around town.

Now is the time to make your reservations. Otherwise you may be disappointed.



"Come and get it!" — It's a magic phrase for trail-sharpened appetites. Last year's meals were voted the best yet—and that's saying plenty! Many expressed amazement that such sumptuous repasts could be served miles from the nearest settlement.

Above: Happy group substitutes the hard saddle for a nice soft log and tucks rations away in true trail ride style.



A Tasty Treat for Mountain Palates

● No, you haven't picked up the cookbook by mistake! It's the Trail Riders magazine you're reading and this really *is* a recipe. And since the recipe goes under the name "Hillbillies" it seems quite natural that said recipe should find its way into our pages.

Inasmuch as the main ingredients appear to be hamburger, spuds, plus a variety of super-spicy ingredients, Hillbillies should find high favor with high country palates. So if you'd like to test your skillet skill, here's how:

HILLBILLIES

- 1 lb. hamburger
- 2½ slices bread (two days old)
- ¼ cup warm water
- 1 tablespoon minced onion
- 1¼ teaspoons salt
- dash of pepper
- ¼ cup chili sauce
- 1 egg slightly beaten
- hot whipped potatoes (about two cups)

Soften bread in warm water and beat in meat, add remaining ingredients except potatoes. Mix well and pack into greased muffin tins or custard cups. Bake in moderate oven, 375 degrees F. for 45 minutes. Remove loaves on to heated platter and top each with a generous helping of the hot potatoes, fluffing into peaks. Dribble butter (or margarine)

over each and complete the dish with either a dash of paprika or a gay sprig of parsley.

Skyline Hikers Set For Annual Safari

Once again we repeat a long-standing invitation from your fellow association, the Skyline Trail Hikers of the Canadian Rockies. It goes like this:

The Skyline Trail Hikers of the Canadian Rockies request the pleasure of your company at their 22nd annual camp slated this summer for Saturday, July 31st, through Wednesday, August 4th.

These dates should have particular appeal for those lucky individuals who can remain in the mountains for a week or so following their trail ride. For members of the six-day ride the hike can be included by extending that Banff vacation by only seven days!

Base camp for the hike will be located several miles up the Spray River in much the same region as that selected for the Trail Riders' camp. The area abounds with upland trails where hikers can brush shoulders with the skyline!

The all-inclusive cost is \$35.00 only for the five-day trip. Included is tepee accommodation, meals, transportation of duffel between Banff and camp, both ways, and gratuities to staff. Please write the secretary-treasurer for further details.

VANEKS IN TROPICS



Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Vanek, of Menomonie, Wis., relax under a spreading palm tree at Condado Beach Hotel in San Juan, Porto Rico. Officially-elected president for 1952-53, Dr. Vanek was compelled, through ill health, to forego the rigors of North American winters and move to balmy climes. Both Dr. Vanek and his wife have been with the Trail Riders at their five-day camp.

NOW'S THE TIME

(Continued from page 15)

pairs of sox, sturdy but kind to the feet, both woollen and cotton, should also be included.

For cold days and colder nights — including that outdoors sing-song under the stars — be sure to bring along a sturdy leather jacket, mackinaw, wind-breaker, blanket coat, or something equally snug to wrap yourself in. A good sturdy sweater will also come in handy.

Each rider should also bring along a suitable slicker or raincoat — a garment heavy enough to keep the entire body warm and dry while in the saddle. This means adequate protection for saddle, knees and legs. If it doesn't rain, you can always use the slicker for a ground sheet!

For daytime wear on the trail and in camp, a shirt is your most conspicuous form of apparel. Checks, gay plaids or just plain colors are extremely popular with both riders and photographers with color films.

We have no statistics to indicate how many trail riders wear pajamas or not! But for those who do, we recommend the old reliable flannelette variety with or without stripes. Many riders also like to wear a beret or woollen toque during slumber time. This practice is highly recommended for warding off the sniffles.

But let's get out into the sun again. A broad-brimmed felt hat — up to 10-gallon size if you like — is particularly effective on the high altitude where Old Sol burns quicker and deeper. If it's the type that can shed rain so much the better. And by all means bring along a pair of tough gloves. These will make the lines much kinder to your city-soft palms.

Toilet articles should be kept in a metal container — the more compact the better. Contents should include soap, unbreakable mirror (there are such things?), sunburn lotion, tooth-paste, shaving cream, medicine, and anything else you keep in your home cabinet. No use bringing an electric shaver unless you have a battery. We just don't have that kind of plug.

Trail Riders are expected to bring their cameras, fishing tackle and if you can really stand punishment—your swim suits as well. Other items that come in handy are flashlight, jack-knife, drinking cup, binoculars, sun glasses, bandana handkerchief, ball-point pen, writing material, mosquito repellent, matches in waterproof container, candy bars, gum, cigarettes, and a good disposition.

Trail Riders should also bear in mind that packing a duffle bag is something of a fine art and make sure that job is done thoroughly and in compact style.

WEDDING BELLS



A trip with the Trail Riders figured in the honeymoon plans of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. (Jim) Renwick, of Toronto, who were married last spring in Ottawa. Both Jim, a member of some year's standing, and his bride, the former Miss Maureen Jeroy, of Ottawa, were popular members of the five-day camp, and, according to recent reports, hope to be back with the cavalcade this coming summer.

It's Smart to Wear A Trail Ride Badge

Don't forget that trail ride button when you deck yourself out for the big parade. In addition to the glamor it imparts, a trail ride button should give you a sense of pride every bit as solid as that imparted by the proverbial school tie!

It also reminds you — as you plod over the trails — that you'll soon (maybe) be trading in your button for a new model in keeping with your augmented mileage classification. This, of course, if you aren't wearing the 2,500-mile all-enamel badge which just can't be surpassed.

As many of you know, the buttons come in two styles — lapel style with screw-cap for the men and in brooch style for the ladies. The designs are slightly different in the two, but the metal combinations are similar in both cases.

If you've ridden a minimum of 50 miles on trails specified by the Constitution, you're entitled to wear the bronze button of the order. And don't forget — when you wear a button you're also doing a subtle advertising job for the association. People are always wanting to know what the button stands for!

In case you're in the market for a trail ride button, we're listing the various classifications, along with their current cost, which incidentally has remained the same for years.

Bronze button: 50 miles upwards — \$2.50; Silver button: 100 miles upwards — \$3.50; Silver and enamel button: 250 miles upwards — \$4.00; Gold button: 500 miles upwards — \$5.00; Gold and Enamel button: 1,000 miles upwards — \$6.00; All-enamel button: 2,500 miles upwards — \$6.00.

The secretary-treasurer has a liberal supply of all styles on hand. These will be forwarded on request postpaid. They will also be on display and for sale at the Trail Riders' registration office in Banff.

Insofar as the felt arm patches are concerned we seem to be having trouble getting a horse with the right expression. In the small badge insignia both horse and rider are little more than silhouettes — But blow the design up and, Oh, brother! Even the rider's face has to be carefully stitched.

But don't give up hope!

Down Memory's Lane

by RAY BAGLEY

Cold is the wind that comes
through the pass,
The setting sun is red,
Aspens shake their stark, bare
limbs,
The grass is brown and dead.
Zebra-streaked, the mountain-
side,
Streaked with the snow and
the gray;
Lofly peaks rive the scudding
clouds.
Winter is on the way.

Out of the north the wild geese
come,
Lakes are freezing fast,
Ever the wild geese call to me
As they are winging past.
High in the sky, they say, "Oh,
come,
Come away with me.
Come away to the southland
Wherever that may be."

In my nook by the fireplace
I watch the embers glow,
And wander back down mem-
ory's lane
Through the long ago.
Where are the friends of yes-
teryear?
Scattered far from me —
Yet memory ever holds you
close,
No matter where you be.

● It will be noted that two feature articles in this edition — Matterhorn of the Rockies and Wild-Life Restaurant — represent the work of no less an authority than Dan McCowan, for many years closely associated with the Trail Riders and their sister association, the Skyline Trail Hikers.

We feel certain that trail riders, interested as they are in outdoor life, will derive considerable entertainment and helpful knowledge regarding the wild creature of which Mr. McCowan writes.



No Sale!

● A trail rider walked up to an empty soda fountain and called for service. Finally a horse appeared, leisurely tied on an apron, and leaned over the counter with its front hooves. The customer stared in bewilderment.

"What's the matter?" asked the horse casually, "Haven't you ever seen a horse tending a soda fountain?"

"It's not that," replied the trail rider. "It's just that I never thought the cow would sell the place."

—○—

Trail Rider (unkind type): "That coffee tastes like mud!"

Camp Cookie: "Well, what do you expect? It was ground only yesterday."

—○—

Jock: I decided I was going to ride that bronc and the bronc was equally determined that I wouldn't.

Frank: Oh! So what did you do about it?

Jock: The bronc tossed me for it!

—○—

Dude: I've never ridden a horse in my life and wonder if you've got a cayuse that would suit me?

Outfitter: Just the thing! Here's a horse who's never been ridden. You can both start together.

● Photos appearing in this issue are largely the work of Fred L. Laidlaw, of Vancouver, B.C., who acted as official trail photographer on both the five-day and the six-day rides. Others have been contributed by Gordon Kloess, of Banff; Miss Isabella M. Kays, of Glendale, Cal., and a few anonymous friends.

Commercial credits go to Switzer, of Ottawa, for photo of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Renwick (page 28) and to Antillas Commercial Photo Servicing, of Santurce, Porto Rico, for photo of Dr. and Mrs. Vanek on same page.

Beds or Boughs?

Those desiring added comfort at night are advised to bring along air mattresses or collapsible beds, both of which can be easily packed into camp, and neither of which will rob the camper of that delicious sense of sleeping "under the stars".

Standard slumber equipment in Teepee Town consists of a sleeping bag laid over a springy mattress of pungent spruce boughs. These, when arranged in the proper fashion on a ground sheet, of course, give a surprising degree of comfort, but it takes a bit of know-how to do it right.

Boughs are cut by camp attendants who will gladly give newcomers helpful hints on how to arrange them for solid slumber.



Here's the kind of knife that every Trail Rider should own! With its shiny, finely tempered steel blade, the knife can be used for everything from skinning a fish to whittling shavings for your teepee campfire. They also come in handy if your teepee mate is given to snoring. Above: Jimmie Shaw, popular fishing guide at Banff Springs Hotel, shows how easily the blade eats into a piece of hard wood with a minimum of pressure. The knife, one edge of which is serrated, was designed by Pat Brewster, of Banff, onetime outfitter to the Trail Riders.



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● Complete membership lists will appear in the Autumn edition—with the necessary revisions. New names will be added, others deleted, and still more transferred to new mileage classifications. It will be appreciated if all members whose names are incorrectly spelled, or whose addresses are incorrectly listed, advise the editor as soon as possible after error has been discovered.

IN AND OUT OF THE SADDLE



A shallow alpine stream is no obstacle to Trail Riders. Here the main column splashes through glacial-green river waters on a day's ride.



Smiles belong to youthful party of young girls accompanying Miss Elizabeth G. Smith, of Jenkintown, Pa., on the five-day ride of '53.